

ON GOVERNMENT ORDERS

Continued from Page 7.

concrete and ran for some 200 yards in a trough of the same material until its course crossed a deep, narrow gulch, which made the pipe necessary. This was to be my point of entrance, as from here on to the mill the pipe was continuous.

It was something after 10 o'clock when I completed my investigation, and I decided to explore the pipe without further delay. I removed my shoes and hid them beneath a boulder, looked to the cartridges in my revolver, a precaution I have always taken since a certain adventure on the Rio Grande. Then I crept into the pipe. It was cool and clammy and as dark as a dungeon. I had a little pocket flashlight, but was afraid to use it, as the distance to the reducing plant was less than 100 yards from the ravine.

My progress was slow and tiresome. Nevertheless, in good time, I came to a point where the pipe made an abrupt turn straight down, which convinced me that I was about at the end of my journey. I reached down the hole as far as my arm would go, but couldn't touch bottom so, after listening for a time and hearing nothing more than a distant drip, drip of water which was most lonesome, mysterious and melancholy, I tore my pocket handkerchief into strips and weighted it with a card-edge so that I might sound the ink depths below. I was sensible enough not to drop down into the pipe without making a reckoning, as I had learned

this precaution by sad experience. To my great relief the plummet struck bottom about four feet down and I cautiously lowered myself, feet first, into the well.

It was rather close quarters, but I managed to feel about me in every direction, and to my dismay found that at this point the pipe divided into half a dozen smaller ones, none of them over six inches in diameter. This was a sad blow to my hopes, and I felt almost defeated, so great was my chagrin. There was nothing to do but clamber back to the straight stretch of the pipe, where I paused a moment to think.

It was so dark I couldn't see my hand before me, so I thought it safe to take out my pocket lamp and examine my surroundings. Flashing it overhead, I was overjoyed to see that the bend in the pipe was arranged with a circular door which was held down by a spring catch which fastened beneath a flange. I released this, and was rejoiced to feel the door move upward when I pushed against it.

It was an opening large enough to permit a man's body to pass through it, and I supposed it must have been arranged so that the pipe could be cleaned out if it should become clogged with leaves or trash. At any rate, it offered the much-sought entrance to the building, for when I pushed the top upward a few inches and peered out beneath it I could see the faint rays of the perfect moon reflected upon the bare brick walls of the building. With great caution I raised the lid upright and crawled out of the opening.

I was indeed within the mysterious building. In my excitement at this discovery I released my hold of the upright lid and it fell to with a metallic

report that sounded, to my tense senses, like the boom of a coast defense gun. The next instant I heard a voice, which I recognized as Mason's, excitedly bellowing:

"Who's that?" he demanded. "Hey, Belden," he continued, "something's broke loose."

I didn't know what to do, so great was my surprise at my own rash act and its consequences. I decided to let them stray word they said and endeavor to keep out of sight.

The men blundered about the room for awhile, the lantern rather handicapping them in their search. I could hear every word they said and the uneasiness they showed was certainly a suspicious circumstance.

Finally they stopped a short distance from my place of concealment. I could see their feet about which the lantern's light concentrated, and they were facing away from me, which gave me a little more hope of escaping.

"I tell you," he said, "it was something fell. It wasn't anything else because I know every door is locked. I seen to 'em myself before we turned in just as I does every night."

"That don't matter," retorted Mason with warmth. "We can't take chances, and we must find what made the noise if we have to look all night. Nothing could have fell if it hadn't been pushed over, and it takes something to live to push things over. I ain't liked the way that stranger has been poking around here lately. I've had my suspicions of him all the time, and I came near as anything taking a pot shot at him that day I found him hid out behind a boulder watching the mouth of the mine through his spy-glass."

"Why didn't you?" queried Belden in a sneering tone. "I'd a done it if I had been the one to find him. What's the matter with you is you don't want to do a thing but copper your share of the swag and play safe all the time. Wish I'd 'a' found him. He'd been wolf feed in less'n no time."

"Well, tain't no use fussing about it now," replied Mason. "I'm glad I didn't shoot him, for it would have brought a lot of detectives and government men about here and would have spoiled our game right off."

"Well, let's go back to bed," yawned Belden, ignoring the taunt.

"Not until we've found what made that noise," answered Mason. "You wait here until I get the headlight from the office. This lantern ain't worth shucks."

"All right," grumbled Belden, and Mason went towards the door, swinging the lantern as he walked. I had heard enough to justify me in arresting the men and in going to any length to accomplish it. Mason would not be gone long, I well knew, so I decided to capture Belden before his partner returned.

I stealthily crawled from under the table, my stocking feet making no noise upon the concrete floor, and warily approached the unsuspecting Belden. I could just make out his bulk, where he stood in a dark portion of the building, and I could hear the rustling of his clothing. He scratched a match and I held my breath. Fortune favored me. He was lighting a corn cob pipe, his back fairly to me. Like a shadow I glided toward him and with a quick, sure stroke brought my heavy revolver down upon the back of

his neck with a sickening, crunching impact.

He fell without a groan and lay like one dead. Nevertheless, I took the precaution to slip a pair of handcuffs upon his wrists, and then I sprang towards the door through which I could see the light of Mason's lantern advancing. I was not a second too soon. As Mason crossed the threshold, I struck him a heavy blow upon the head and he went down like an ox in the shambles. I handcuffed him and picked up his lantern.

Next, I packed the unconscious men into the room where they slept and deposited them upon the bed, after which I set about restoring them to consciousness. This room opened into the office where was situated the vault. After some little time Mason groaned and sat upright.

"Well, pardner," was his crestfallen greeting, when he had looked me over carefully. "I guess you hold the trump cards. What do you mean to do next?"

He showed no resentment and seemed at first to think that I was a bandit. I showed him my badge, which had an electrical effect upon him. In my brief acquaintance with him I marked him as a man who would confess everything and endeavor to escape punishment by implicating his confederates, so I explained to him as much of my suspicions as seemed expedient and made several guesses. This quite overpowered him, and after it was as plain as wax in my hands. He confessed everything and opened the big vault for me and showed me the books of the company. I had expected to have some difficulty with him and to have to do more

bluffing than proved necessary, but he did everything in his power to help me.

He said that he, Belden and Hudson had turned the trick without assistance. They had conceived the gigantic fraud when the mine began to fail, and had experienced little difficulty in putting it into effect. On the fine showing the mine had made at first, they succeeded in getting \$1,000,000 invested in it, after which they had incorporated and began to sell stock. They took the money they received for stock and converted it into gold coin, which they shipped to the mine, where it was melted down, run into bars, shipped back to the city, and sold as bullion, a part of it going to pay dividends.

I had suspected this when I had the quantitative analysis of one of their bars of gold made, for it had showed the percentage of amalgam that is used in gold coins. The last shipment of gold coin was in the time-lock safe, which wouldn't open until 3 o'clock next morning, so I made a hasty examination of the books and then trusted my two prisoners up like turnkeys while I went to rouse the man.

He was an intelligent Irishman, who had knocked about the world a good deal, and it didn't take long to explain the situation to him. He accompanied me back to the mine, after I had wired instructions for Hudson's arrest, and relieved me of my charge.

I spent the night going over the books and examining the records in the vault, and by morning I had everything I wanted to lay bare one of the most colossal swindles ever attempted. (Copyright, 1908, by W. G. Chapman. Copyright in Great Britain.)

Never Such Christmas Stock; Never Such Christmas Values

Pricing Extraordinary on Our Vast Stock of Holiday Merchandise

NO EXTRAORDINARY SHOW FEATURES, THE COST OF WHICH MUST BE ADDED TO THE PRICE OF THE GOODS, BUT A COMPREHENSIVE BUSINESS-LIKE GATHERING OF IMMENSE HOLIDAY STOCKS. WE ARE HEADQUARTERS AND AUTHORITIES IN EVERYTHING PERTAINING TO DRY GOODS. WE HAVE MADE THIS BRANCH OF COMMERCE A LIFELONG STUDY AND PUT ALL OUR ENERGY TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND TO REDUCE THE COST. THE SCIENCE OF MODERN RETAILING IS MANIFESTED IN ECONOMY, AND DEPENDABILITY IS THE CHARACTERISTIC OF ALL OUR GOODS. HERE ARE SUGGESTIONS FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS THAT ARE PRACTICAL AND USEFUL—GIFTS ON WHICH YOU CAN SAVE MONEY AND REJOICE WITH THE RECIPIENT. GIFTS NOT NECESSARILY EXPENSIVE, BUT USEFUL AND PRACTICAL. WHILE REMEMBERING YOUR FRIENDS DON'T FORGET YOURSELF—BUY EVERYTHING IN WHICH YOU ARE IN NEED.

MONDAY!

20c
Hemstitched
Pillow Cases

Size 42x36, limit 9
to a customer, at each—

12c

MONDAY!

\$5.50 and
\$6.50
White Irish
Point Curtains

Two pretty designs, at a pair—

\$3.48

MONDAY!

\$14.00
White
California
Blankets

12-4 and 13-4 sizes,
the finest wool
makes, weigh 6 and
7 pounds, at a pair—

\$8.60

MONDAY!

\$1.50
Hemstitched
White Linen
Squares

One yard square,
limit 1 to a customer, at each—

83c

MONDAY!

\$12.50
Portieres

Brocade, Ottoman
and Oriental
effects, go at a pair—

\$6.98

MONDAY!

\$5 and \$6
Satin
Comforters

Fancy quilted,
filled with the finest
white shot
cotton, go at each—

\$3.30

Rich Silks and Handsome Dress Goods

Combine with extra low prices again this week! Come for the Greatest Silk and Dress Goods Bargains ever heard of at this or any other store on Monday. All this season's productions at surprising Money-Saving Prices.

100 pieces of New Fancy Silk in stylish, rich patterns; these include the very finest makes of foreign mills, values up to \$2.00. Special for Monday and week at, per yard \$1.19

5 pieces of 36-inch Black Silk Peau de Soie, an extra heavy, glossy silk, strong and durable, the \$1.75 quality. Special for Monday and week at, per yard \$1.23

85c Dress Goods for 49c a Yard.

150 pieces Black and Colored Dress Goods, consisting of plain, heavy storm Serges, Panamas, Mohairs, Tweeds, Herringbone Serges, Striped Panamas, Plaids, Checks, Striped Novelty, etc., suitable for Skirts or Full Dresses, values up to 85c. Special, a yard 49c

\$1.10 Grade Panama for 79c a Yard.

42-inch strictly All-wool Heavy Panama Cloth, Black and Colors, for Skirts, Waists or Suits, regular \$1.10 quality. Special, a yard 79c

\$1.25 Grade Black Voile for 85c a Yard.

42-inch All-wool, Crisp Voile, Priestley's make, black only, worth \$1.25 a yard. Special, a yard 85c

Embroidered, hemstitched, initial or lace trimmed, domestic and foreign makes. It's an endless variety. It's the greatest handkerchief showing in Salt Lake. Here are specially priced offerings for this week to emulate early Christmas buying:

Figured Tokio Silk Hemstitched Handkerchiefs, in neat, small designs, a variety of patterns. On sale 12c

White Irish Linen Lawn Handkerchiefs, with hemstitched and corded border and neatly embroidered small hand-embroidered initial in corner, excellent 25c

AT 3 FOR \$1.00.

The greatest variety of superb values in Ardennes hand-embroidered Pure Linen, Hemstitched Handkerchiefs, and a beautiful line of Swiss embroidered, Hemstitched or Scalloped Bordered Handkerchiefs, the greatest selection ever shown; at each 33c

AT 3 FOR 50c.

Ladies' Corded Plaid Handkerchiefs, embroidered in great variety of pretty designs, qualities hard to duplicate anywhere for less than 25c each. Our Christmas advance sale price, each 16c

AT 12c A BOX.

Children's Handkerchiefs in all white or with colored border, hemstitched, come 2 in box, for 12c

HANDKERCHIEF CENTERS

Pure Linen Handkerchief centers, extraordinary values. This week at each—

25c, 19c, 15c and 10c

ESTABLISHED 1864

T. A. Aberbach & Co.

ONE PRICE TO ALL NEVER UNDERSOLD

Holiday Money Saving Special Sales in Our

Cloak and Suit Department

Tomorrow we begin our Special Sales in this department. Count yourself fortunate to know about it. The closer you study the following prices, the nearer your inspection of the goods, and the more you buy of these goods at these prices the more you'll congratulate yourself later. Fact is, you can't be disappointed in these Bargains, for we cannot possibly overestimate their magnitude. Holiday investors will find this event most popular.

\$17.50 LONG COATS, \$11.00. Long Coats of excellent materials, in Brown and Gray mixtures; some back tight and semi-fitting, durable, stylish coats, regular \$17.50 values. This week, at our money-saving price, \$11.00

\$25.00 LONG COATS, \$14.75. Handsome Broadcloth, Kersey and Fancy Materials used in the making of these stylish coats. Mostly plain tailored, some 54 inches long lined throughout with guaranteed satin, regular \$25.00 values. This week, at our money-saving price, \$14.75

\$30.00 TAILORED SUITS, \$24.75. Jaunty, swell Broadcloth, strictly tailored suits, semi-fitted, 36 and 38-inch coats, gored skirts, neatly trimmed with silk braid, regular \$30.00 suits. This week, at our money-saving price, \$24.75

\$10.00 NET AND SILK WAISTS, \$5.75. Exquisite creations in Net and Silk Waists of handsome taffeta, trimmed with lace, long or three-quarter sleeves, regular \$10.00 waists. This week, at our money-saving price, \$5.75

\$15.00 FUR SETS, \$10.50. Rich, handsome Brook Mink Fur Sets, with large pillow muffs, made with double scallop at bottom. Throw fully 60 inches long, lined throughout with guaranteed satin, regular \$15.00 sets. This week, at our money-saving price, \$10.50

Men's Leather House Slippers, with quilted satin innersoles (sizes 6 to 10). This week's price \$5c

Boys' Good, Solid Wearing Shoes, made of Box Calf and double soles (sizes 13 1/2 to 5 1/2). value \$2.50, at \$1.95

Ladies' Storm Rubbers, with reg. heel, new stock just arrived (sizes 2 1/2 to 8), at, per pair 65c

Men's First Quality Rubbers, all sizes, at, per pair 35c

Boys' Finest Dress Shoe Made, in Kid or Patents, with neat, pointed kid tops, Bluched cut and genuine Goodyear welt soles (sizes 13 1/2 to 4), value up to \$2.50. Special, while they last, \$2.29 at, per pair

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Clothing for Christmas

The most liberal price concessions ever made during a Holiday Season. Here are sensible gifts at money-saving prices.

\$2.50 SUITS AND OVERCOATS, \$1.90. Boys' two-piece Suits, in all styles up to 16. Overcoats, sizes 3 to 9, various fancy mixed patterns; also plain colors in either. Special for the week at \$1.90

\$3.00 SUITS AND OVERCOATS, \$2.20. Splendid wool mixed fabrics, in a number of neat and attractive patterns, also plain colors, in suits up to size 16, and Overcoats from size 3 to 9 years. Special \$2.20 for the week at only

\$4.00 SUITS AND OVERCOATS, \$2.85. Boys' Suits in all styles and sizes. The best of qualities and an exceptional range of handsome patterns—any boy would be delighted at receiving one for Xmas. Overcoats, too, of the most winning styles and patterns, sizes 3 to 9 years. Special for the week at \$2.85

\$5.00 SUITS AND OVERCOATS, \$3.65. Boys' Suits of superior excellence in style, quality, pattern and tailoring—satisfaction in every suit. We have Knickerbocker and the regular two-piece styles—sizes up to 16. In Overcoats and Russian Suits we can more than please you in every respect; in sizes 3 to 9 years. Special for the week at only \$3.65

\$6.00 SUITS AND OVERCOATS, \$4.45. Quality and style—two of the most important things to consider in buying clothing. These points will appeal to you when you inspect this line. Any style you want. A great variety of patterns. Sizes in suits or overcoats up to 16 years. Special for the week at \$4.45

\$17.50 LONG COATS, \$11.00. Long Coats of excellent materials, in Brown and Gray mixtures; some back tight and semi-fitting, durable, stylish coats, regular \$17.50 values. This week, at our money-saving price, \$11.00

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MONDAY!

\$6 and \$7
Imported
Marseilles
Bed Spreads

White and colored,
go at, each—

\$3.78

MONDAY!

15c
Daisy Flannel

Cream and white,
limit 10 yards to a
customer, at, a
yard—

93c

MONDAY!

Silk Hose
Best \$1.50
Grade at 99c.

Ladies' fine all
pure silk hose in
black, pink, blue,
tan and white,
greatest \$1.50 value
on sale Monday—

MONDAY!

Children's
Union Suits
Up to 75c Grade
at 43c

Children's natural
gray wool mixed
Jersey ribbed
union suits, fitting
regularly according
to size up to
16 years, all sizes
Monday—

43c

MONDAY!

\$4.00
Bath Robes

\$2.69

German flannel
and elderdown
bath robes, in various
colors and
mixtures, worth \$4.
Monday only at—

MONDAY!

\$6.50
Walking
Skirts

\$4.45

A limited quantity
of handsome
walking skirts,
worth \$6.50, Monday
only—

\$4.45